

Description of Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance

(Beginning 11/12/03)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Section(s)</u>	<u>Description</u>
6/24/15		All sections EXCEPT 19-500 and 19-631 through 19-650 were repealed by the Board of Supervisors on June 24, 2015.
4/15/15	19-42, 19-99, 19-131, 19-145, 19-152, 19-159, 19-509.1, 19-513, 19-514.1, 19-600, 19-606, 19-608, 19-609, 19-611, 19-621, 19-622, 19-623, 19-634, 19-635, 19-636, 19-637, 19-638, 19-640, 19-645, 19-649 19-62, 19-105, 19-240.2, 19-261, 19-521, 19-523, 19-526, 19-551	Relating to the Ettrick Special Design District
4/15/15		Relating to Lot Subdivisions that are not Subject to the Preliminary Plat Subdivision Process
8/27/14	19-25	Relating to Fees
6/25/14	19-65, 19-131	Relating to Wind Energy Systems (WES)
6/25/14	19-238	Relating to Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) in the Upper Swift Creek Watershed
3/12/14	19-21	Relating to Powers and Duties of the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)
2/12/14	19-65	Relating to Temporary Family Health Care Units
1/22/14	19-65, 19-301	Relating to the Keeping of Chickens in Residential Zoning Districts
12/11/13	19-240, 19-240.1, 19-240.2, 19-240.3, 19-240.4	Relating to the Preservation of Trees During Development in the Upper Swift Creek Watershed
11/13/13	19-25	Relating to Fees for Technology Zones

	Amending 19-5, 19-14, 19-58, 19-69, 19-74, 19-79, 19-84, 19-89, 19-94, 19-99, 19-105, 19-106, 19-128, 19-200.1, 19-200.7, 19-200.8, 19-200.9, 19-200.11, 19-233, 19-241, 19-261, 19-264, 19-265, 19-274, 19-301, 19-505, 19-510, 19-513, 19-517, 19-518, 19-520, 19-521, 19-522, 19-523, 19-526, 19-551, 19-555, 19-559, 19-582, 19-608; Enacting 19-560, 19-561, and 19-562	Relating to Residential Subdivisions
7/17/13		
5/22/13	19-5, 19-632, 19-638 19-99, 19-131, 19-145, 19-152, 19-159, 19-238, 19-507.2, 19-508 (repealed), 19-523, 19-580, 19-582, 19-583, 19-584, 19-586, 19-586.1, 19-589.2, 19-600, 19-606, 19-608, 19-609, 19-610, 19-611, 19-612	Relating to Banners
4/10/13		Relating to Bridge the Gap Ordinance Amendments – Part 1 (Comprehensive Plan Implementation)
4/10/13	19-175, 19-301 19-55, 19-56, 19-57, 19-58, 19-59, 19-60, 19-61, 19-62, 19-63, 19-301	Relating to Alternative Financial Institutions
11/14/12		Relating to Floodplain Management Regulations and Dam Break Inundation Zones
6/27/12	19-25	Relating to Fees

9/21/11	19-5, 19-633	Relating to Electronic Message Centers
9/21/11	19-518	Relating to Landscape Maintenance Bonds
4/13/11	19-25	Relating to Zoning and Other Planning Fees
12/15/10	19-555, 19-555.1	Relating to Accessory Building Sizes and Setbacks in Residential and Certain MH Districts
10/27/10	19-65, 19-124, 19-131, 19-152, 19-200.3, 19-301	Relating to Requirements for Columbariums
10/27/10	19-25, 19-65, 19-118.1, 19-122.2, 19-301	Relating to Temporary Health Care Structures and Associated Fees
10/27/10	19-64, 19-101, 19-107, 19-113, 19-122.1, 19-200.2, 19-301, 19-649	Relating to Residential Care Homes (Assisted Living Facilities and Group Homes) in Residential, Residential Townhouse, Multifamily Residential, Manufactured Home and Traditional Neighborhood Development Districts
9/22/10	19-25	Relating to Reduction of Planning Fees
4/28/10	19-128, 19-500.1, 19-500.1 (see also 17-2, 17-32, & 17-36)	Relating to Subdivision Definitions and Procedure, Lot Size and Development Standards for Agricultural Districts, Standards for the Creation or Extension of Streets in Agricultural Districts and Street Frontage Requirements for Residential Uses in R, R-TH & MH-2 Districts
3/10/10	19-65, 19-124, 19-131, 19-181, 19-301	Relating to Requirements for Wind Energy Systems
2/10/10	19-301	Relating to the Keeping of Dogs for Private Use
1/27/10	19-632, 19-646, 19-647	Relating to Definitions for Sign Structure and Copy and the Calculation of Sign Area and Height for Freestanding Signs
1/27/10	19-632, 19-637	Relating to Signs for Community Events and Campaign Signs
12/16/09	19-514	Relating to Surface Treatment for Parking Areas Accommodating Storage of Boats and Recreational Vehicles

11/18/09	19-1, 19-55, 19-56, 19-58, 19-59, 19-264, 19-268, 19-274	Relating to Dam Break Inundation Zones (See also ordinance adopted 11/18/09 amending 17-1, 17-32, 17-38, and 17-63)
8/26/09	19-510, 19-513	Relating to Off-Street Parking for Businesses Operated Incidental to a Dwelling
8/26/09	19-25	Relating to Reducing Fees for Certain Commercial Activities
6/24/09	19-25	Relating to Fees for Certain Conditional Use Applications
3/11/09	19-5	Relating to the Fines for Violations of the Ordinance Regarding the Number of Unrelated Persons in a Single-Family Residential Dwelling
1/9/09	19-25	Relating to Fees for Certain Conditional Use Applications
9/24/08	19-240, 19-240.1, 19-240.2, 19-240.3, 19-240.4	Relating to Tree Planting, Replacement and Preservation in the Upper Swift Creek Watershed
8/27/08	19-265, 19-268, 19-269	Relating to Submission of Subdivision Plats and Site Plans to State Agencies and the Deadlines for the County to Act on Such Plats and Plans
7/30/08	19-25	Relating to Planning Department Fees
6/25/08	19-58, 19-238, 19-301, 19-514	Relating to Design and Water Quality Standards in the Upper Swift Creek Watershed
5/28/08	19-41, 19-301, 19-508.3, 19-509, 19-510, 19-512, 19-518, 19-644, 19-645, 19-200.1 through 19-200.11, 19-508.4, 19-509.1, 19-514.1	Relating to Creation of the Traditional Neighborhood Development Zoning District and Requirements Thereof
4/9/08	19-181, 19-301	Relating to Unmanned Motor Vehicle Fueling Facilities in I-1 Districts
1/23/08	19-125, 19-227, 19-301	Relating to Regulation of Farm Wineries

11/28/07	19-5	Relating to Penalties for Violation of the Ordinances Regarding the Number of Unrelated Persons in Single Family Dwellings
11/14/07	19-65, 19-124	Relating to Uses Permitted With Certain Restrictions in Residential and Agricultural Districts
10/10/07	19-520, 19-522, 19-523	Relating to Buffers
10/10/07	19-5, 19-6, 19-24, 19-25, 19-301	Relating to Substantial Accord Determinations
3/14/07	19-99	Relating to Front Yard Setbacks in R-7 Districts in the Ettrick Village Core
2/14/07	19-638	Relating to Banners
2/14/07	19-514	Relating to Design Standards for Off-Street Parking
2/14/07	Repealing 12-71 – 12-75 & 19-240; amending 8-8, 19-58, 19-232, 19-233, 19-237, 19-238, 19-238.5	Relating to Water Quality in the Upper Swift Creek Watershed
1/10/07	19-637	Relating to Signs
--	19-587	Changed compliment to complement. No ordinance amendment.
12/13/06	19-25	Relating to Planning Department Fee Exemptions for Subzones Within the Jefferson Davis and Walthall Enterprise Zones
12/13/06	Amending 19-505, 19-580, 19-587, 19-587.1, 19-587.2, 19-587.3, 19-588, 19-588.1, 19-588.2 19-589.1, 19-589.2, repealing 19-587.4, 19-588.3, 19-588.4, 19-588.5, adding 19-589.5	Relating to Route 10 Corridor East Enon Core District, and Old Stage and Coxendale Roads Corridor Setbacks and Development Standards
9/27/06	19-25	Relating to Machinery and Tools Tax Incentives and Enterprise Zones (Effective 1/1/07)

8/23/06	19-131	Relating to Dwelling Unit Uses in the O-1 District Located in the Villages of Ettrick & Matoaca
6/28/06	19-25, 19-264, 19-279	Relating to Zoning, Site Plan & Other Planning Fees, Site Plans, & Site Plan Fees
5/24/06	19-159, 19-161	Relating to Multi-Family and Townhouse Uses Permitted in C-3 and C-4 Districts
4/12/06	19-118	Relating to Permitted Uses in the MH-2 Zoning District
2/22/06	19-65, 19-66, 19-102, 19-103, 19-107.1, 19-108, 19-124, 19-301, 19-510	Relating to Home Occupations
12/14/05	19-65, 19-66, 19-102, 19-103, 19-107.1, 19-108, 19-124, 19-301, 19-510	Relating to Home Occupations
09/21/05	19-1, 19-26	Relating to hearings, notifications and posting of property and the purposes of the zoning ordinance
09/21/05	19-145, 19-301	Relating to Incidental Check Cashing Services
09/21/05	19-185, 19-192, 19-195, 19-199, 19-523	Relating to Setbacks in Industrial Zoned Districts
08/24/05	19-25, 19-232, 19-233, 19-236, 19-301	Relating to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and Providing for an Application Fee for Certain RPA Exceptions From Such Requirements
06/22/05	19-635, 19-636, 19-637	Relating to Offsite Directional Signs and Community Identification Signs Located in Public Right of Way
01/26/05	19-181, 19-185	To permit outdoor vehicle storage, accessory to warehouses, as a restricted use in I-1 districts
12/15/04	19-51	Relating to Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness for Historically Designated Property

11/23/04	19-228, 19-229, 19-230, 19-231, 19-232, 19-233, 19-234, 19-235, 19-236, 19-241, 19-242, 19-301	Relating to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Provisions of the Zoning Ordinance
07/28/04	19-508.3, 19-573	Adding 19-508.3 and Deleting 19-573 Relating to Exterior Lighting
6/23/04	19-65, 19-100, 19-102, 19-107.1, 19-144, 19-145, 19-159, 19-172, 19-173, 19-181, 19-227, 19-301, 19-513, 19-514, 19-555, 19-637, 19-638, 19-650	Changes reflecting clarification, correction and minor changes; changes to development standards.
6/23/04	19-507, 19-507.2	Relating to Height Exemptions and Limitations for Communications Towers
6/23/04	19-65, 19-102, 19-107.1, 19-113.1, 19-124, 19-131, 19-173, & 19-181	Relating to Communications Towers Allowed in Residential, Manufactured Home, Agricultural, Office, Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts Subject to Certain Restrictions
5/26/04	19-159	Relating to Motor Vehicle Repair, and Motor Vehicle Sales in C-3 and C-4 Districts
5/26/04	19-570.1	Relating to Development Standards for Retaining Walls in Office, Commercial and Industrial Districts
4/14/04	19-131 & 19-144	Relating to Single Family Dwellings in O and C Districts in the Ettrick Village Core and Matoaca Village Core
01/14/04	19-144, 19-600, 19-606, 19-608, & 19-609	Relating to the Ettrick Village Plan
12/17/03	19-6	Relating to Civil Penalties and Providing for a Penalty
11/12/03	19-100.1, 19-100.2, 19-100.3, 19-100.4, 19-100.5, 19-100.6, & 19-100.7	Relating to R-C Conservation Subdivision Residential Districts

11/12/03	19-600, 19-606, 19-609, 19-611, & 19-612	Relating to Development Requirements for the Matoaca Village Core Village Commercial Area
11/12/03	19-636	Relating to Sign Design and Setback Requirements
11/12/03	19-638	Relating to Banners
11/25/03	19-65, 19-66, 19-67, 19-68, 19-124, 19-68.1, 19-73.1, 19-78.1, 19-83.1, 19-88.1, & 19-93.1	Relating to Special Exceptions and Conditional Uses in Residential and Agricultural Districts

Chapter 19

ZONING

Sec. 19-1 through 19-499. Repealed.

Article VII. Development Standards Manual

Division 1. Development Standards

Subdivision I. General Provisions--Countywide

Sec. 19-500. Variations in requirements when adjacent to vacant land zoned agricultural.

Sec. 19-501 through 19-630. Repealed.

Division 4. Signs

Sec. 19-631. Purpose and intent.

Sec. 19-632. Definitions.

Sec. 19-633. General regulations.

Sec. 19-634. Prohibited signs.

Sec. 19-635. Signs not requiring permits.

Sec. 19-636. Sign design and setback requirements.

Sec. 19-637. Limitation on specific signs.

Sec. 19-638. Banners.

Sec. 19-639. Flags.

Sec. 19-640. Real estate signs.

Sec. 19-641. Sign packages required for nonresidential communities.

Sec. 19-642. Permissible building mounted sign area.

Sec. 19-643. Calculation of building mounted sign area.

Sec. 19-644. Other restrictions for building mounted signs.

Sec. 19-645. Freestanding sign design.

Sec. 19-646. Calculation of freestanding sign area.

Sec. 19-647. Calculation of freestanding sign height.

Sec. 19-648. Freestanding identification signs.

Sec. 19-649. Size restrictions for specific types of freestanding signs.

Sec. 19-650. Nonconforming and illegal signs.

Secs. 19-651--19-660. Reserved.

Sec. 19-661 through 19-669. Repealed.

ARTICLE VII. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS MANUAL

DIVISION 1. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Subdivision I. General Provisions--Countywide

Sec. 19-500. Variations in requirements when adjacent to vacant land zoned agricultural.

When a zoning lot adjacent to a vacant parcel in an A district is designated for an O, C or I use by the comprehensive plan, then the development requirements may be reduced in accordance with permitted reductions as if the zoning lot were adjacent to property zoned O, C and I.

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DIVISION 4. SIGNS

Sec. 19-631. Purpose and intent.

(a) The purposes and intent of this division are to regulate the use of publicly visible displays or graphics; to protect and enhance the character of roadways and surrounding areas; to prevent diminishing property values due to excessive signage; to safeguard the public use and nature of roadways; and to minimize visual distractions to motorists along public roads.

(b) The regulations are specifically designed to:

- (1) Promote maximum legibility of signs and to prevent their over-concentration as well as excessive height, bulk and area.
- (2) Promote the safety of persons and property by requiring that signs not create a hazard due to collapse, fire, collision, decay or abandonment; do not obstruct firefighting or police surveillance; and do not create traffic hazards by confusing or distracting motorists or by impairing the driver's ability to see pedestrians, obstacles or other vehicles, or to read traffic signs.
- (3) Enable customers and other persons to identify and locate a business or service.

(Ord. of 4-25-01, § 1)

Sec. 19-632. Definitions.

For the purposes of sections 19-631 through 19-650, the following words and phrases shall have these meanings:

Awning: A permanent roof-like structure covered with a flexible material which provides protection from rain or sun or is used as an architectural accent.

Banner: A sign consisting of a piece of fabric or other similar flexible material, other than a flag or pennant.

Building mounted sign: A permanently attached sign, erected or painted on the outside wall, roof, window or door of a building.

Canopy: A permanent roof structure made of rigid materials providing protection from rain or sun. There are two types of canopies:

- (1) Drive-through canopy: A canopy over drive-through activity.
- (2) Pedestrian canopy: A canopy over pedestrian areas.

Changeable copy sign: A sign whose copy can be changed or altered by manual or electric, electro-mechanical or electronic means, except for scoreboards. Changeable copy signs include the following types:

- (1) *Manual:* Signs whose copy can be changed or altered by manual means.
- (2) *Electrical:* Signs whose copy can be changed or altered on a fixed display surface composed of electrically illuminated or mechanically driven changeable segments. Electrical signs include two types:
 - a. Fixed message electronic signs: Signs whose copy has been preprogrammed to include only time, temperature and date, and do not operate in a flashing, traveling or rolling fashion.
 - b. Computer controlled variable message electronic signs: Signs whose copy can be changed or altered by means of computer-driven electronic impulses.

Community Event: A gathering by citizens of the community for social, cultural, or recreational purposes relating to parades, festivals, commemorative events, school sponsored events and other similar noncommercial events.

Construction sign: A temporary sign that notifies the public of a specific residential community or nonresidential community to be constructed in the future, or any community or freestanding nonresidential site at the start of construction. The sign may also identify the architect, contractor, subcontractor and/or material supplier participating in construction on the property on which the sign is located.

Copy: The display on a sign surface in either permanent, electronic, or removable letter, graphic, or numeric form and any associated background distinguishable from the sign structure or building.

Decorative fence/wall: An open or solid fence or wall which:

- a. Contributes to the identification of the principal use;

- b. Is not erected to satisfy any other provision of this Code; and
- c. Consists of material that is not typically found in security structures, such as chain link.

Event sign: A temporary sign used to advertise a community event.

Fascia: A flat horizontal band located at the base of a pitched roof, between architectural moldings near or at the top of a wall, extending out from a building wall as a separate wall panel, or as the outside edge of a canopy, which provides a visible location to mount signage.

Flag: A sign consisting of a piece of cloth or other flexible material attached to a flag pole, light post or mounted on a building and used as a symbol.

Freestanding sign: A nonmovable sign supported by a fence, wall, upright structural members or braces on or in the ground and not attached to a building.

Illuminated sign: A sign with an artificial light source incorporated internally or externally for the purpose of illuminating the sign.

Logo: Any emblem used as the symbol of an organization, or residential or nonresidential community. A logo may include a graphic, text, or both.

Nonresidential community: A group of buildings or uses containing three or more nonresidential establishments that are planned, developed or managed as a unit.

Nonresidential community identification sign: A freestanding sign that bears the name of the nonresidential community and may include the names of the tenants.

Offsite directional sign: A sign that directs traffic to a site other than the site on which the sign is located. Offsite directional signs do not include real estate signs.

Onsite directional sign: A sign directing traffic to an activity on the same site as that on which the sign is located. Onsite directional signs do not include real estate signs.

Onsite directory sign: A sign located internally to a nonresidential community for the purpose of identifying and providing directional information to the specific businesses or occupants within a nonresidential community. These signs may include logos and/or business names of individual businesses in the nonresidential community.

Order board: A sign providing the menu for a drive-through restaurant that includes an intercom allowing customers to place an order.

Outdoor advertising sign: A sign or structure used as an outdoor display for the purpose of making anything known, when the matter advertised or displayed is not related to the premises where such sign is located. Outdoor advertising signs do not include offsite directional, yard sale or real estate signs.

Outparcel: A site for a freestanding building or use within a nonresidential community.

Parapet wall: A wall that extends above the top of a flat roof.

Pennant: Any lightweight plastic, fabric or other similar material, whether or not containing copy suspended from a rope, wire, or string, usually in series, designed to move in the wind.

Permanent sign: Any sign attached to the ground or any other structure, intended to exist for the life of the structure or use, and which cannot be easily removed.

Portable sign: A sign which is not permanently affixed to the ground or other structure and which is designed or constructed in such a manner that it can be moved or relocated without involving any structural or support changes.

Preview board: A sign providing the menu for a drive-through restaurant prior to approaching the order board. A preview board does not have an intercom.

Projecting sign: A sign which is attached to and projects at an angle and extends more than 18 inches from the face of the wall of a building.

Real estate sign: A temporary sign used to offer property for sale, lease, rent and/or development or to advertise an open house.

Refacing: The replacement of a sign face, regardless of change in copy, of equal size to the original, without altering any other aspect of the sign.

Residential community: Any recorded subdivision or any approved multi-family project.

Riders: Additional panels added to a real estate sign that provide information regarding special features of the property or building, or the name and contact information of the real estate agent.

Sign: Any display of figures or copy visible to the public for the purpose of making anything known or attracting attention.

Sign box: A structure that encloses the sign face and other components.

Sign structure: An assembly of materials used to support a sign and that provide the exterior form and finishes that define an area of sign copy.

Temporary sign: A sign permitted for a limited period of time as specified in this chapter.

Traffic control signs: Signs regulating driving or parking, including but not limited to stop, one-way, do not enter, handicapped parking and access and restricted parking signs.

Under canopy signs: Signs located under and attached to the ceiling of a building mounted pedestrian canopy and mounted perpendicular to a building front.

Village district entryway sign: A permanent, freestanding sign located at or near the entrance to a village district as defined in division 5 of article III of the Development Standards Manual. Such signs shall be restricted to the identification of the village district; notification of special events; notification of civic, social, and service organizations; and other items of public interest.

Window sign: A sign attached to a door or window that is legible from the exterior of the building.

(Ord. of 4-25-01, § 1; Ord. of 8-22-01, § 1; Ord. of 1-27-10(1), § 1; Ord. of 1-27-10(2), § 1; Ord. of 5-22-13)

Sec. 19-633. General regulations.

The following regulations apply to all signs, whether or not a sign permit is required, and are in addition to the regulations contained elsewhere in this article:

- (a) State and federal sign requirements apply to all signs located in the county.
- (b) A county sign permit is required for all signs in excess of eight square feet in area, unless otherwise provided in this chapter. A separate sign permit is required for all electronic message center (EMC) signs.
- (c) Signs for which a permit is required shall not be enlarged, structurally altered, or otherwise modified without a new permit. This requirement does not apply to refacings.
- (d) An application for a sign permit shall contain:
 - (1) A completed form obtained from the building inspections department;
 - (2) Scaled drawings based on a survey plat showing the location of the sign and the tax I.D. number for the property on which the sign will be located;
 - (3) Plans showing the size, dimension and height of the sign and the dimensions and square footage of the copy shown thereon;
 - (4) Complete specifications of the method of mounting and/or anchoring the sign;
 - (5) An EMC sign permit application shall include documentation of a designated electrical control box servicing only the EMC, and documentation of the photocell providing an automatic change of the illuminative brightness between sunset and sunrise.
 - (6) Information regarding other signs demonstrating compliance with the requirements of subsection (h) of this section; and

- (7) The filing fee.
- (e) If requested by the director of planning, a survey prepared by a registered civil engineer or certified surveyor certifying the location, height and/or area of the sign must be submitted after the sign is erected.
- (f) The owner of a freestanding sign structure which requires a sign permit shall have the permit number and date of issuance permanently affixed to the sign in a location clearly legible from the ground.
- (g) For nonresidential sites requiring a new certificate of occupancy, a temporary certificate of occupancy will not be released unless the applicant has an approved sign permit. The approved sign must be installed prior to the release of the final certificate of occupancy.
- (h) Signs shall not be erected so that sight lines from public rights-of-way to other signs are obstructed.
- (i) Anytime the holder of an EMC permit receives two (2) notices of violation within 12 months, the director of planning can suspend the EMC sign permit for a period of up to thirty (30) days. If the EMC permit holder receives any other notices of violation within 12 months of the end of the suspension period, the director of planning can suspend the EMC sign permit for a period of up to thirty (30) days for each additional violation. During suspension of the permit, the EMC sign shall be disconnected from electric power.

Sec. 19-634. Prohibited signs.

- (a) Signs or sign structures that obstruct any opening intended to provide light, air or ingress and egress for any building.
- (b) Signs that are structurally unsafe.
- (c) Signs that by reason of position, shape or color, interfere with, obstruct the view of, or cause confusion with any authorized traffic sign, signal or device.
- (d) Signs which include lighting that impairs the vision of any motor vehicle operator; obstructs firefighting or police surveillance; or causes any direct glare into or upon any property other than the property on which the sign is located.
- (e) Portable signs unless specifically permitted elsewhere in this chapter.
- (f) Signs placed on utility poles or traffic control signs.
- (g) Sound-producing signs.
- (h) Moving signs intended to attract attention regardless of whether or not the sign has a written message or whether all or any part of it moves by any means, including but not

limited to rotating, fluttering or being set in motion by movement of the atmosphere. This paragraph does not apply to the hands of a clock operating as such, or to computer controlled variable message electronic signs. However, within village and Ettrick Special Design districts, the director of planning may approve such signs for a period not to exceed two days for special community events if notified at least five business days in advance in writing.

(i) Signs displaying flashing or intermittent lights, or lights of changing degrees of intensity, except as allowed for computer controlled variable message electronic signs.

(j) Any sign displayed on a stationary motor vehicle or trailer when the vehicle or trailer is used primarily for the purpose of and serving the function of a portable sign, except when such vehicle or trailer is parked in the operator's driveway or when the vehicle is parked to the side or rear of a commercial building and is not visible from adjacent public roads or is loading or unloading.

(k) Signs greater than 48 square inches in area that display a commercial message on a parked motor vehicle or trailer and that are unrelated to any activity or enterprise of the owner or operator of the vehicle or trailer.

(l) Freestanding signs constructed so that a portion of the sign or its supports overhangs any portion of a building.

(m) Canopies or awnings that are internally lighted and covered with a translucent material, regardless of whether sign copy is displayed on them.

(n) Outdoor advertising signs.

(Ord. of 4-25-01, § 1; Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-635. Signs not requiring permits.

The following signs may be erected without a sign permit, so long as they comply with the regulations in this chapter:

- (a) Traffic control signs, whether erected by public or private entities, so long as the sign does not include a business name or logo.
- (b) Warning signs or signs required to be erected by law.
- (c) Signs identifying a street address without identifying a business.
- (d) Signs inside a building or other enclosure intended for viewing by persons inside the building or enclosure.
- (e) Works of art or architectural features that do not include or imply a commercial message and that are no more than 40 feet in height.

- (f) Signs in public rights-of-way if approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation and limited to:
 - (1) Signs posted by or on behalf of a government body.
 - (2) Signs which direct or regulate pedestrian or vehicular traffic.
 - (3) Bus stop signs posted by a public company or a government.
 - (4) Information signs of a public utility regarding its poles, lines, pipes or facilities.
- (g) Barber poles used to advertise establishments which cut hair. Such poles shall be building mounted only and may not revolve unless located within village or Ettrick Special Design districts.
- (h) Signs allowed to be attached to trees on sites where land disturbing activities are being conducted, such as land disturbance permits, job site numbers and similar temporary signs.

(Ord. of 4-25-01, § 1; Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-636. Sign design and setback requirements.

(a) With the exception of signs permitted to be placed in the right-of-way pursuant to sections 19-635(f), 19-636(e), and 19-637(h), all signs, including directional signs, shall be set back a minimum of 15 feet from all property lines, unless a greater setback is specified by conditions of zoning, approved site or subdivision plans, or by this chapter.

(b) Along public rights-of-way, the setback may be reduced to a minimum of 20 feet from the edge of the pavement or the face of curb, but, except as permitted in section 19-636(e), no sign shall be set back less than one foot from the property line, provided the sign shall be relocated to conform to the requirements herein at the time the adjacent road is widened.

(c) Within any village and Ettrick Special Design districts, the sign setback shall be five feet from the right-of-way line.

(d) Along roads which have proposed right-of-way expansion, as delineated in the comprehensive plan, if such right-of-way has not been acquired, signs may be located within the proposed right-of-way, provided the sign shall be relocated to conform to the setback requirements upon acquisition of the right-of-way.

(e) Along the following roads where the right-of-way for future expansion, as delineated in the comprehensive plan, has been acquired by the county free and unrestricted, signs for office, commercial, industrial and mixed use projects may be placed within the county owned right-of-way subject to a license approved by the board of supervisors. The license shall require the owner of the sign to relocate the sign to conform to the setback requirements of the zoning ordinance at no cost to the county or state upon request of the county or state.

- (1) Route 60 between the Powhatan County line and Winterfield Road,
- (2) Route 60 between Old Buckingham Road and the Richmond City line,
- (3) Route 360,
- (4) Route 10 between the Richmond City line and Buckingham Street,
- (5) Route 10 between Jefferson Davis Highway and the Hopewell City line,
- (6) Huguenot Road,
- (7) Courthouse Road between Route 60 and Route 360,
- (8) Harrowgate Road,
- (9) Jefferson Davis Highway

(f) Landscaping: Except for new signs within paved areas, existing as of April 25, 2001, grass, live groundcover, shrubs and trees consistent with other plantings shall be provided around each individual permanent freestanding sign. The landscaping required by this section shall be depicted on the site or landscaping plans.

(g) Illumination.

- (1) External lighting shall be limited to white lighting and shall not be blinking, fluctuating or moving. External lighting shall be provided by concealed and/or screened spots or floods and shall be arranged and installed so as not to cause glare in any adjoining R, R-TH, R-MF or A district or public right-of-way. If external lighting is used, the sign shall not be internally illuminated. However, incidental lighting of buildings shall not be considered to be external lighting of signage.
- (2) Internal lighting shall be contained within translucent copy and internally illuminated sign boxes, provided the area illuminated for sign boxes is restricted to the sign face only. The illumination shall not cause glare on any adjoining R, R-TH, R-MF or A district or public right-of-way. If internal illumination is used, external lighting shall not be allowed. However, incidental lighting of buildings shall not be considered to be external lighting of signage.
- (3) School and church signs located in residential or agricultural districts shall not be illuminated between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., subject to section 19-500.

(Ord. of 4-25-01, § 1; Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-637. Limitation on specific signs.

- (a) Changeable copy signs.
 - (1) Changeable copy is not permitted, unless the changeable component of the sign face occupies one-half or less of the total area of the sign face. This restriction does not apply to changeable copy used in movie theater and fuel price signs.

- (2) If changeable copy is used, it shall abut the sign face or be integrated into the sign face, provided, however, if the sign is incorporated into a monument structure, the changeable copy need not abut or be integrated into the sign face. Changeable copy added to signs existing prior to April 25, 2001 shall abut the sign face as close as physically possible.
- (3) Computer controlled variable message electronic signs may be allowed subject to section 19-161(c).
- (b) Farming signs.
 - (1) Signs displayed for the purpose of farm identification must be located on the farm premises, set back at least 50 feet from the nearest corner of a street intersection. The sign must be painted or printed and the total aggregate area of all signs shall not exceed 12 square feet in area and a height of ten feet.
 - (2) One temporary sign advertising the sale of farm products grown or produced on the premises is allowed, provided such signs shall not be illuminated, shall be painted or printed, maintained in good condition, and removed within ten days after the end of each growing season. Such signs must be no more than 12 square feet in area and ten feet in height unless located in village or Ettrick Special Design districts, in which case height is limited to seven feet.
- (c) Offsite directional signs advertising special community events are limited to four square feet in area and no more than one per street intersection. Such signs must be removed within 48 hours of the date of the advertised event. The director of planning must be notified in writing at least five business days before the signs are installed of their location, message, and length of display.
- (d) Offsite directional signs are limited to seven square feet in area and seven feet in total height, and are limited to the following uses: churches, schools, hospitals, parks, libraries, scenic areas, historic areas, train stations, airports, group care facilities, and meeting or convention halls which exceed 10,000 square feet. Offsite directional signs are not permitted for facilities with entrances on an arterial that is constructed with four or more lanes. No more than one sign identifying a single place is allowed along any one street. However, on arterials constructed with four or more lanes, two directional signs may be erected provided there is not more than one on each side of the road.
- (e) Onsite directional signs are limited to no more than two per public road entrance, and the signs shall be legible from the adjacent public road. Business names and/or logos are not permitted on the sign. If directional signs are used adjacent to the roadway, at least one shall include the street address of the business it references. The directional sign shall include no more than two colors, including black and white, with the lettering as one color and the face as the other. Lighting of directional signs shall be by internal illumination only. Except as noted below for parking row designation signs, onsite directional signs shall not exceed four square feet in area and five feet in height.

- (1) Excluding businesses that are located in a nonresidential community, businesses that are required by the county transportation department to share an access are allowed to have one directional sign along the shared access road, either onsite or offsite. Business names are permitted on such directional signs provided that the name does not exceed one square foot in area.
- (2) Parking row designation signs are permitted in parking lots, but are limited to four square feet in area and 15 feet in height.

(f) Onsite directory signs shall be limited to no more than one per vehicular entrance into the nonresidential community. Onsite directory signs shall either be screened by landscaping or located so that they are not legible outside the nonresidential community. Onsite directory signs shall not be included in calculating the number of freestanding signs permitted or in calculating the total aggregate permitted sign area. Such signs are limited to 20 square feet in area and eight feet in height.

(g) Order boards: One detached order board and one preview board is permitted for each stacking lane for businesses with drive-through facilities. Order boards and preview boards shall not be included in calculating the number of freestanding signs or in calculating the total aggregate sign area. Such signs must be located so that they are not legible from off the property. Order boards are limited to 30 square feet in area and six feet in height, unless located in village or Ettrick Special Design districts, in which case the area shall not exceed 12 square feet. Preview boards are limited to 15 square feet in area and six feet in height, unless located in village or Ettrick Special Design districts, in which case the area shall not exceed 12 square feet.

Additionally, one order board not to exceed four square feet in area is allowed for each parking space or fueling location, provided such signs are attached to columns supporting a canopy and have a finish color that matches the colors used on the canopy. One temporary sign not to exceed four square feet in area advertising special products or services may be used along a drive-up window lane, provided it is located so that it is not visible from adjacent residential districts or public rights-of-way. These signs shall not be included in calculating the number of freestanding signs or in calculating the total aggregate sign area allowed for the site.

(h) Residential community identification signs. One such sign shall be permitted for each separate street entrance to the community. One such sign shall be permitted on each side of an entrance if both signs are attached to a decorative fence/wall. The sign area allowed is 20 square feet for each 200 dwelling units in subdivisions or residential communities with a guaranteed minimum of 32 square feet and a maximum of 100 square feet. Such signs must be no more than 15 feet in height unless located in village or Ettrick Special Design districts, in which case height is limited to seven feet. These signs may be located within the public right of way, if approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation, and located within the median strip of the entrance.

(i) Scoreboards as well as signs advertising goods, services or products shall be permitted within ball diamonds, ballfields, racetracks, stadiums, arenas or other facilities accommodating sporting events or activities. If a sign is not visible from off the property, there shall be no size or height limitation. If a sign is visible from off the property, it shall not exceed

64 square feet in area. In addition, it shall be attached on the interior of a fence or wall enclosing the facility and shall not exceed the height of the fence or wall. However, where a fence or wall is not provided, the scoreboard or sign shall not exceed a height of eight feet.

(j) Signs advertising events for nonprofit organizations must be removed within 30 days after the date of the event.

(k) Signs attached to or immediately above fuel dispensers are limited to eight square feet in area. Such signs shall not be included in the total permitted sign area for the facility and shall not be internally illuminated.

(l) Signs displaying the name of a house or a home occupation at a single family residence shall not exceed one square foot in area and shall not be illuminated.

(m) Signs prohibiting trespassers, hunting, fishing, solicitors or parking or announcing adoption of highways for litter control, posted property, crime watch areas or towing of unauthorized vehicles shall not exceed three square feet in area and shall not be illuminated.

(n) Temporary onsite signs bearing the single message "now hiring" shall not exceed four square feet in area and are limited to one per business. Such signs may be displayed only during periods a business is accepting applications for employment.

(o) Temporary vendors selling Christmas trees are permitted one sign, not to exceed 32 square feet in area and ten feet in height, unless located in village or Ettrick Special Design districts, in which case the height shall not exceed seven feet. Such signs may be displayed for 40 days starting November 15 of each year.

(p) Under canopy signs within shopping centers are limited to one under canopy sign per store. Such signs shall not exceed eight square feet in area and shall be located in front of the store's main entrance. Such signs shall not be deducted from the sign area permitted for the store.

(q) Signs attached to, or visible through, doors or windows that are legible from outside the building shall not exceed an area greater than 15 square feet or 25 percent of the total window and door area located on any one face of the building, whichever is less. Further, signs which are mounted on doors or windows shall be located in the top half of the door or window.

(r) Yard sale signs shall not exceed four square feet in area. Such signs are limited to one offsite sign directing the way to the sale and one onsite sign. Yard sale signs may be installed no earlier than 48 hours prior to the sale and must be removed within 48 hours after the date of the sale.

(s) Temporary campaign signs are permitted provided that they do not exceed 32 square feet in area and ten feet in height; not exceed seven feet in height in village or Ettrick Special Design districts; not be placed on utility poles, traffic control signs or trees or within public rights of way; and are removed 30 days after the election. Candidates shall list all site locations for temporary campaign signs through one (1) permit.

(t) Civic community service organization signs and home/business of the month signs provided that they do not exceed eight square feet in area and five feet in height.

(u) Signs containing religious, educational or charitable messages or which advertise events for nonprofit organizations provided that they do not exceed eight square feet in area and five feet in height.

(v) Non residential or mixed use community identification signs may be located within the public right of way, if approved by the Department of Transportation, and located within the median strip of the entrance.

(w) Noncommercial signs, other than those specifically regulated elsewhere in this chapter or as a condition of zoning, located on residential or agriculturally zoned lots, provided that the signs do not exceed five feet in height and the total area of all signs on the lot does not exceed eight square feet.

(x) Event signs are permitted provided that they do not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area and eight feet in height; are not placed on utility poles, traffic control signs or trees or within public rights-of-way; are displayed for a maximum of fifteen (15) days before the advertised event, and are removed, including the sign structure, within 48 hours of the conclusion of the community event. Under no circumstances shall an event sign be displayed more than twenty-five (25) days. A maximum of ten (10) signs may be displayed per community event; however, only one (1) sign may be displayed per parcel. All site locations for event signs shall be listed on one (1) permit. An organization may receive no more than four (4) event sign permits per year.

(Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-638. Banners

1. Purpose.

Banners shall only advertise or communicate the following:

- a. Special sales and promotions
- b. Events
- c. Hiring and recruitment periods
- d. Local, state or national business awards
- e. A new business that has not yet installed permanent signage

With the exception of a new business that has not yet installed permanent signage, a banner shall not solely advertise a business name and/or logo.

2. Approval.

- a. Prior to the installation of any banner, an applicant shall obtain approval from the director of planning. The approval request shall be on an application form proscribed by the director of planning, and shall, at a minimum include the following information about the banner:

- 1) purpose,
- 2) size,
- 3) area of building face if building mounted,
- 4) proposed location,
- 5) dates of display, and
- 6) method of fastening or displaying.

In addition to the above requirements, the director of planning may request additional information deemed necessary to ensure compliance with this section.

- b. Banner applications shall not be submitted more than 30 days prior to the proposed display date.
- c. The director of planning may deny a banner application for up to one year from the issuance of the most recent notice of violation if a property, business or organization has received two notices of violation of this section in any 12-month period.

3. Location and placement.

- a. Except as otherwise specified in this section, banners shall be located on the same property as the sponsoring business, organization or event that the banner advertises or promotes.
- b. Banners along public roads must meet the following:
 - 1) Except for village or Ettrick Special Design districts, a banner shall be located at least 20 feet from the edge of pavement or a minimum of one foot outside of the public right of way, whichever is greater.
 - 2) In village and Ettrick Special Design districts, a banner shall be located at least 20 feet from the edge of pavement or a minimum of five feet outside of the public right of way, whichever is greater; however, if a banner is advertising a community event, such banner may be displayed across a public road subject to the approval of VDOT.
- c. Banners may be freestanding or building mounted.
- d. Banners shall not be attached to trees, shrubs, utility poles, guy wires or traffic signs.

4. Other Requirements.

Banner Type	Number Permitted	Permitted Consecutive Display Days	Permitted Display Days Excluding Nonprofit (per year)		Permitted Display Days For Nonprofit (per year)	Banner Size	
			Special Areas ^[1]	All Other Areas		Freestanding (square feet)	Building Mounted
a. For a nonresidential community with in-line tenants or tenants not having direct road frontage ^{[2] [3]}	4	60	60	120	120	32	50 square feet or 15% of building face ^[4]
b. For outparcel uses within a nonresidential community; or for businesses and organizations located outside of a nonresidential community ^{[3] [5]}	1	60	60	120	120	32	
c. For the temporary onsite activity of a nonprofit organization not permanently located on the property. ^{[3] [6]}	1	60	Not Applicable		120	32	

d.	For a community event of nonprofit organization on vacant property ^{[3][7]}	1	15	Not Applicable	120	32	Not Applicable
e.	For nonprofit sports team recruitment period, offsite display ^[8]	4	30	Not Applicable	120	32	
f.	For a community event banner displayed across public road in village area	1	60	Not Applicable	120	250	

[1] Special Areas are shown on the zoning maps as “Banner Limitations Special Areas” and are known as, Eastern Midlothian Special District and Chesterfield Towne Center Southport Area Special District.

[2] Of the banners allowed, no more than 2 freestanding banners shall be allowed along the project road frontage and the remainder may be building mounted. No more than 1 banner is permitted per tenant, to allow up to 4 tenants to advertise concurrently. Additional banners may be permitted as provided in footnote [3].

[3] Where the property on which a banner is displayed is located along more than one arterial road, the number of banners permitted may be displayed simultaneously for each arterial road and each banner may be displayed the number of days permitted in this section. An additional banner may be permitted along the road frontage for each 500 feet of project road frontage in excess of 1000 feet.

[4] For in-line tenants of a shopping center the banner size calculation shall be based upon the building face of the tenant unit. For other buildings, the banner size calculation shall be based upon the building face on which the banner is displayed.

[5] When a banner is displayed by a nonprofit organization and there are multiple nonprofit organizations collocated on the property, no more than one additional banner may simultaneously be displayed for the additional nonprofit organizations located on the property.

[6] This banner may be displayed in addition to other banner(s) permitted by this section.

[7] Display time shall be limited to 15 days prior to the event.

[8] An organization may receive no more than four (4) such banner permits per year. A maximum of four (4) offsite banners may be displayed per advertised recruitment period; only one (1) banner may be displayed per parcel; and all site locations for such event banners shall be listed on one (1) permit.

(Ord. of 4-25-01, § 1; Ord. of 11-12-03, § 1; Ord. of 2-14-07(3), § 1; Ord. of 5-22-13; Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-639. Flags.

Flags do not require sign permits and are allowed so long as:

The flag is a noncommercial flag that only depicts the emblem and insignia of a nation, political unit, educational, charitable, religious, civic or similar group or is a noncommercial

decorative flag. A commercial flag is a flag that is not a noncommercial flag. Commercial flags are allowed but each commercial flag shall be limited to the same size requirements as freestanding signs (section 19-649). The size of any freestanding sign allowed on a site shall be reduced by the total square footage of all commercial flags displayed on the site. Commercial flags must not exceed a height of 40 feet. Each flag other than a building mounted flag must be individually attached to a pole which does not exceed a height of 40 feet for commercial flags. The height of the pole shall be measured in accordance with § 19-647.

Sec. 19-640. Real estate signs.

(a) The following real estate signs do not require a permit and are allowed under the conditions specified herein:

- (1) Onsite real estate signs that advertise the sale or rental of residential or agricultural premises shall be maintained in good condition and removed within ten days after the transfer of title or rental of such property and shall not be illuminated.
- (2) Offsite real estate signs directing the way to premises that are for sale or rent and open to the public for inspection. They shall be erected only while the building is open to the public for inspection and shall be removed when the agent or owner closes the premises for public viewing. There shall be no more than one sign per street intersection directing the way to the premises.
- (3) Onsite real estate signs advertising an open house are permitted so long as there is no more than one onsite sign. The message shall be restricted to "open house", a directional arrow, and the real estate company or owner's name, logo, phone number and the hours the building is open for inspection.
- (4) Offsite real estate signs directing the way to premises that are for sale or rent. Such signs shall be limited to one sign per intersection per house for sale. The message on the sign must be limited to the realtors association trademark "R", equal housing opportunity logo, "for sale" or "for rent" and an arrow. The signs must be removed ten days after the transfer of title, or the rental of such property.
- (5) Real estate signs are limited in size to six square feet in area and seven feet in height. Up to two riders may be attached to such signs. If riders are attached, the total sign area is limited to eight square feet. If the property fronts along a major arterial and is designated on the comprehensive plan for nonresidential use, the requirements for such signs in office, business or industrial districts found at sections 19-640(b)(4) and 19-640(b)(5) apply.

(b) The following real estate/construction signs require a sign permit and are subject to the conditions specified herein:

- (1) One onsite real estate sign advertising a residential community, provided such sign shall be removed when 90 percent of the dwelling units in the residential community are occupied.

- (2) One construction sign advertising the use to be made of a commercial building or structure and the businesses and firms developing the building or structure. Such sign may be installed when actual construction is started and shall be removed upon occupancy of the building or structure.
- (3) One construction sign notifying the public that a nonresidential community is coming soon. This sign shall be removed before erection of any other construction sign and in no instance shall be permitted to remain longer than three years.
- (4) One onsite real estate sign advertising the sale or rent of parcels of land with or without buildings in O, C or I districts, provided such sign is removed within ten days after the transfer of deed or rental of such property. If the sign is no greater than 16 square feet a county sign permit shall not be required.
- (5) The signs must not exceed 32 square feet in area and a height of ten feet unless located in village or Ettrick Special Design districts, in which case height is limited to seven feet.

(Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-641. Sign packages required for nonresidential communities.

A comprehensive sign package for all signs within a proposed nonresidential community shall be submitted to the planning department for approval in conjunction with the first site plan submitted for approval within the nonresidential community or as required by conditions of zoning. The sign package shall provide detailed renderings for all signs within the nonresidential community, including sizes, lighting and location. Sign packages are in addition to the application for a sign permit. Sign packages are not required for projects existing prior to November 9, 1994, unless required by conditions of zoning.

- (a) The letter style and graphic display of all signs within a nonresidential community shall be similar. The area, location and material of signs shall substantially conform with buildings and site design. All accessory signs to the primary business sign of a business shall be of a single color chosen from the primary business sign.
- (b) The developer shall determine that either sign boxes, canopy or awning signs or individually mounted letters shall be used within the nonresidential community. Where sign boxes are used, the background colors of all sign boxes shall be similar.
- (c) In the event the applicant disagrees with the decision of the director of planning regarding the sign package, the applicant may file an appeal to the planning commission in accordance with section 19-268.

Sec. 19-642. Permissible building mounted sign area.

(a) The total building mounted sign area permitted for separate tenant spaces with separate exterior public entrances within a nonresidential community shall be calculated at one and twenty-five hundredths square feet for each one lineal foot of building frontage, provided that a minimum of 30 square feet and a maximum of 150 square feet shall be permitted, except that signs shall not exceed more than 70 percent of the building frontage for each tenant. For buildings having frontage exceeding 120 feet, the 150 square foot maximum building mounted sign area may be increased one square foot for each additional three lineal feet of building frontage. On individual sites or outparcels where freestanding signs are permitted by this article, the permitted building mounted sign area may be calculated at one and seventy-five hundredths square feet of sign area for each one lineal foot of building frontage, provided a freestanding sign is not erected. Building frontage shall include canopy lengths in the case of service stations and other uses providing drive-up windows.

(b) Multi-tenant office buildings which only provide common entrances for all tenants shall be permitted a maximum of two building mounted signs, no more than one of which shall be visible at one time from off the property. Additional building mounted tenant identification signs not to exceed three square feet in area or mounted no higher than each common entrance shall be allowed, provided the total area of all signs does not exceed the area permitted for the building.

(c) Where retail tenants occupy space inside a building with a common entrance, exterior signage for those tenants shall be deducted from the total permissible square footage of sign area on the exterior of the building.

(d) Under no circumstances shall a sign exceed more than 70 percent of the linear building or tenant frontage.

Sec. 19-643. Calculation of building mounted sign area.

The area of building mounted signs shall be calculated as follows:

- (a) *Projecting signs.* The area of a projecting sign shall be calculated as the area of a rectangle which encompasses the extreme limits of each individual sign face, including all background visible from any direction at one time.
- (b) *Canopy or awning signs.* If canopies or awnings contain sign copy, the area of these signs shall be measured by calculating the total area of the surface upon which the sign copy is located.
- (c) *Individually mounted or painted letters.* The area of individually mounted or painted sign letters applied directly to the building face, which are not further emphasized by an architectural or painted element of the building, shall be calculated as the sum of the area within a series of rectangles which encompasses each individual letter.

- (d) *All other building mounted signs.* The area of all other building mounted signs shall be measured as the area within a single rectangle that encompasses the extreme limits of all copy and background, framing, ornamentation or sign boxes. The area of letters and symbols not attached to each other and not provided on sign boxes or awnings may be separately calculated by enclosing each of the letters within separate rectangles.

Sec. 19-644. Other restrictions for building mounted signs.

- (a) If the side or rear lot line of the property on which a building mounted sign is erected adjoins a R, R-TH, R- MF or A District, the raceways for any building mounted sign visible to such districts shall be painted to match the building and shall not face the adjacent lot in such districts, unless the sign is located at least 150 feet from such district.
- (b) Signs may be mounted perpendicular to a building, provided that no sign shall project more than 36 inches from the building, roof or canopy, exceed a face to face thickness of eight inches or exceed the height of the fascia or parapet wall. All projecting signs shall maintain a minimum clearance of eight (8) feet above grade below the sign. Within a Traditional Neighborhood Development (TND), building signs projecting over a sidewalk may extend up to eight (8) feet from the building as long as the sign is no closer than four (4) feet from the face of curb at the street.
- (c) No building mounted sign shall project above the roofline or parapet wall of any building.
- (d) On all nonresidential buildings that border roads, driveways or parking lots intended for use by the general public on both the front and rear sides, the sign area for a single tenant whose leased area extends from the front to the back of the building may be increased by 100 percent, so that a sign may be placed on both the front and the rear of the building. However, the sign area exposed to any single street or view can not be increased beyond what is normally permitted. This increased sign area shall be calculated based on the maximum area of building mounted signs permitted before any other additional area is added.
- (e) The maximum aggregate area of building mounted signs may be increased by 50 percent for buildings on lots located at the intersection of public roads, provided that the sign area exposed to any single street is not increased beyond what is normally permitted. This increased sign area shall be calculated based on the maximum area of building mounted signs permitted before any other increase in sign area is added.
- (f) Drive-through canopy fascias with more than one color, not including the color of the copy, shall be considered building mounted signage. If only one color is used, that color shall be black or white or shall match a significant color, including major accent colors, found on the principal building. Within nonresidential communities, colors are subject to the compatibility requirement of section 19-570(a).

Sec. 19-645. Freestanding sign design.

(a) Sign structures for freestanding signs shall be covered with (1) a material having a similar color and finish to the building which it advertises; (2) a material and color used elsewhere on the signs; or (3) disguised as an architectural detail such as a column or a decorative wall.

(b) Any freestanding sign in a TND, O-1 or C-1 District shall conform to village or Ettrick Special Design districts standards, with the exception that signs in a TND District that front on a major arterial outside of village or Ettrick Special Design districts may use countywide size restrictions for area and height for signs located on the major arterial.

(c) Any freestanding sign area may be increased up to 25 percent, so long as the increase is for the purpose of including changeable copy, except for those signs advertising movie theaters and gasoline/diesel fuel prices. Further, a non-residential community identification sign may be increased an additional 25 percent of the area allowed by section 19-649 provided that at least 50 percent of the total changeable copy area is solely for the advertising of special sales events by individual tenants who are not allowed their own freestanding signs by the zoning ordinance or applicable conditions of zoning for the property.

(d) For nonresidential community identification signs existing prior to April 25, 2001 that do not include changeable copy, a separate changeable copy sign may be constructed on the site in lieu of modifying the existing sign. The changeable copy sign may be up to 50 percent of the allowable sign area of the existing sign and shall be of a monument style using similar materials and colors from the existing sign. At least 50 percent of the changeable copy must be reserved for the advertising of special sales events by individual tenants who are not allowed their own freestanding signs by the zoning ordinance or applicable conditions of zoning for the property.

(e) Any freestanding sign advertising onsite retail sale of gasoline or diesel fuel may be increased by 25 square feet for the purpose of advertising fuel prices only.

(f) Any freestanding sign advertising multiple franchise businesses located inside one building on a nonresidential community outparcel where common access is shared between the franchises, may be increased by a maximum of ten square feet for the purpose of identifying the franchise(s).

(Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-646. Calculation of freestanding sign area.

Area is measured in square feet. The area of a freestanding sign shall be computed by means of calculating the area of the smallest square, circle, rectangle, triangle or combination thereof that will encompass the extreme limits of the copy. For a sign consisting of two or more sides of copy, where the interior angle between any of the sides of copy exceeds 90 degrees, the second and each succeeding side of sign copy area shall be counted when calculating sign area.

Sec. 19-647. Calculation of freestanding sign height.

(a) Height is measured in feet to the top of the sign copy area. If the sign location lies below the road elevation nearest to it, the sign height shall be measured from the road grade of the nearest travel lane to the sign to the top of the area of copy.

(b) If the sign location lies above the road elevation nearest to it, the sign height shall be measured from the normal finished grade of the site to the top of the area of copy. Artificially increasing the height of the sign by berming or mounding earth or other material at the sign base shall be permitted but calculated as part of the sign height.

(c) Architectural elements that enclose the top area of copy may not exceed 25 percent above the allowable sign height.

Sec. 19-648. Freestanding identification signs.

(a) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, only one freestanding sign is permitted. Existing signs at public schools as of April 25, 2001 that are constructed of or mounted on masonry, stone or concrete shall not be counted toward the freestanding signage allowed onsite.

(b) For freestanding sites or communities that front along two major arterials as indicated on the comprehensive plan, a freestanding sign may be permitted on each major arterial. Freestanding sites or communities that front on a major arterial and a collector road are permitted one sign on the major arterial and an additional freestanding sign not to exceed 30 square feet and a height of ten feet along the collector road. However, the sign located along the collector road shall not be externally illuminated and, further, shall not contain a changeable copy sign. Where more than one freestanding sign is permitted on a freestanding site or community, each sign must be installed so that it is not legible at the same time as any other sign from any one direction. Each sign shall be installed to be perpendicular to its respective roadway. If such sign along a collector road is within 300 feet of an R, R-TH, R-MF, or A District, subject to section 19-500, the sign must be reduced to ten square feet in area and eight feet in height, may only be illuminated internally, and shall not include changeable copy.

Sec. 19-649. Size restrictions for specific types of freestanding signs.

<i>Sign</i>	<i>Countywide</i>		<i>Village or Ettrick Special Design District</i>	
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Height</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Height</i>
Signs identifying a mixed use or multisubdivision occupying 50 acres or less	50	15	32	8
Signs identifying a mixed use or multisubdivision occupying greater than 50 acres	100	20	32	8
Identification signs at secondary entrances to mixed use communities and multi-residential communities	50	15	32	8
Signs identifying a nonresidential community with a minimum of 300,000 square feet of gross floor area	100	20	32	8
Sign identifying nonresidential community with less than	50	15	32	8

300,000 square feet of gross floor area				
Signs identifying offices and industrial buildings within a nonresidential community	32	8	24	8
Signs identifying other buildings within a nonresidential community	20	8	20	8
Office and business buildings not in a nonresidential community	50	15	24	8
Industrial uses occupying 25 acres or less and not within a nonresidential community	50	15	24	8
Industrial uses occupying more than 25 acres and not within a nonresidential community	100	15	24	8
Signs identifying boarding houses, tourist homes, bed and breakfasts, or buildings with a multifamily use	16	8	16	8
Greenhouses, nurseries, lawn and garden centers	50	15	24	8
Hospitals and funeral homes	50	15	24	8
Group care facilities, rest homes and nursing homes	50	15	24	8
Stadiums, arenas, and other places of public assembly with fixed seats	50	15	24	8
Golf courses, driving ranges, miniature golf courses, bowling alleys, skating rinks, indoor/outdoor health or fitness centers, fraternal clubs and lodges	50	15	24	8
Warehouse and wholesale uses	50	15	24	8
Hotels/motels fronting on interstate highways	150	20	24	8
Hotels/motels not fronting on interstate highways	75	15	24	8
Onsite identification signs for public/semi-public uses including but not limited to churches, schools, libraries, fire stations, water/sewer treatment facilities, and cemeteries which front on roads at least 4 lanes wide	50	15	24	8
Onsite identification signs for public/semi-public uses including but not limited to churches, schools, libraries, fire stations, water/sewer treatment facilities, and cemeteries on roads less than 4 lanes wide	32	15	24	8
Neighborhood recreation facilities	32	15	24	8
Movie theaters	20 per screen w/ a min. of 50 and a max. of 200	15	24	8
Historic building identification signs. Such buildings must appear in the Historical Register for the County of Chesterfield, State of Virginia, or National Historical Register.	16	8	16	8
Restaurant associated with a hotel/motel (only when located in a freestanding building)	20	8	20	8
Taxi companies, train stations, bus stations, airports,	50	15	24	8

service stations, car washes, vehicle rental, and vehicle repair shops				
Truck terminals occupying 25 acres or less	50	15	24	8
Truck terminals occupying more than 25 acres	100	15	24	8
Vehicle sales	50	20	24	8
Village or Ettrick Special Design district entryway signs	70	12	70	12

(Ord. of 4-15-15)

Sec. 19-650. Nonconforming and illegal signs.

- (a) A sign erected without a permit that is required to have a permit is an illegal sign.
- (b) A sign that is subject to a condition that was imposed or accepted as part of any land use decision made prior to November 9, 1994, shall continue to be subject to the condition and such condition shall supersede any corresponding requirement specified in this chapter. If there is a conflict between conditions and this chapter, then the conditions shall apply. If there is no condition which addresses a specific requirement, then the requirement of this chapter shall apply.
- (c) Any sign not lawfully existing prior to November 9, 1994 shall not become a legal sign by the enactment of this chapter.
- (d) Any sign lawfully existing prior to November 9, 1994, which does not comply with the requirements of this chapter shall be deemed to be a nonconforming sign and may continue subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The sign shall be properly maintained.
 - (2) If the sign is enlarged or altered structurally, the sign must come into compliance with all of this chapter's requirements.
 - (3) If the sign is repaired or refurbished at a cost in excess of 35 percent of the replacement cost of the total sign structure the sign must be brought into compliance with this chapter's requirements. Costs associated with normal maintenance and refacing of outdoor advertising signs shall not be deemed to be repair or refurbishing costs.
 - (4) Nonconforming signs and their structures that are damaged to an extent where the estimated reconstruction cost is 50 percent or more of their appraised value shall not be rebuilt or repaired, unless brought into compliance with this chapter.
- (e) A nonconforming sign may be refaced without affecting its nonconforming status. However, signs that exceed the size or height requirements specified herein by 100 percent or more cannot be refaced.

(f) A new tenant in a multitenant building may erect new building mounted signs in conformance with this chapter without affecting the nonconforming status of other signs on the building.

(g) A nonconforming sign may be replaced under the following conditions:

(1) The sign is brought into conformance with this chapter; or

(2) The area and height of the sign are reduced by 50 percent of the amount the size and height exceed the current ordinance and all other requirements of this chapter are met.

(h) A business that has closed shall be required to remove any onsite or offsite signs, including all structural elements down to the ground level, associated with the business within 12 months of the date the business closed.

(i) All nonconforming outdoor advertising signs lawfully existing prior to July 22, 1992, may remain in place after becoming nonconforming, provided that they are maintained in accordance with this chapter.